

State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS
124 HALSEY STREET, 6TH FLOOR, NEWARK NJ

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

PETER VERNIERO
Attorney General
MARK S. HERR
Director

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 45020 Newark NJ 07101 (201) 504-6500

September 10, 1996

REGULAR MAIL
AND CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Dale R. Bodman, VMD Veterinary Associates 720 Lacey Road Forked River, New Jersey 08731

Re: Case Number 95-108
Joanie A. Bennert

Dear Dr. Bodman:

The New Jersey State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners had the opportunity to meet with you for an investigative inquiry on July 31, 1996 relative to the above-captioned matter.

This is to advise you that, based upon your testimony, the Board found that you engaged in professional misconduct in that you (1) failed to maintain custody of the patient records of Ms. Bennert's cat, in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:44-4.9; and (2) failed to respond to official Board correspondence, in violation of N.J.A.C.13:45C-1.1. Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 45:1-22(b), the Board has assessed a civil penalty of \$750 for each of these counts of professional misconduct, for a total civil penalty of \$1,500. The Board also has assessed costs in the amount of \$37.25.

You are hereby afforded the opportunity to dispose of this matter without a hearing and without recourse to litigation by executing the attached form and returning it to the Board within ten (10) days together with your remittance made payable to the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners in the amount of \$1537.25.

If you wish a formal hearing in this matter, you may request same within ten (10) days of the date of this letter. At the time of hearing, you may appear with counsel of your choice and with witness and documentary evidence. At that time, the Board will not be bound to the terms stated in this letter and may, after presentation and evaluation of all the evidence presented, impose any of the sanctions contained in N.J.S.A. 45:1-22, which include revocation or suspension of licensure and assessment of penalties up to \$2,500 per violation. Additionally, the Board may, if the facts warrant, enter an order requiring the restoration of any monies acquired by unlawful acts and the payment of all costs in this matter.

If you do not reply to this letter within the required ten (10) day period, then the Board will make its determination on the evidence in the record and will take such action as may be allowed by law, which may include additional penalties pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 based on your failure to respond to official Board correspondence.

Very truly yours,

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Audrey Weiner

Assistant Director

AW/ir

cc: Brenda Lewis, DAG

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CERTIFICATION

I have received the Board's letter dated September 10, 1996 regarding alleged violations of the Board's enabling act and/or Board regulations.

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

- K The allegations set forth therein are acknowledged, and I enclose herewith a check of \$1537.25 payable to the State of New Jersey.
- I hereby waive any right which I may have to a hearing in this matter and submit a written statement for the Board's final consideration in this matter.
- A hearing on this matter before the Board is hereby requested.

Case # 95-108